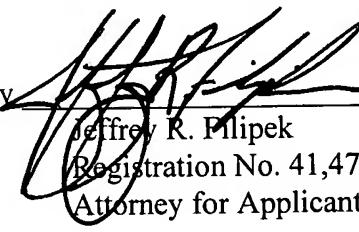


REMARKS

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to add new claims 10-12 and delete the multiple dependency of claim 9, thereby placing such claims in condition for examination and reducing the required PTO filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Hirokazu SUGIMOTO et al.

By 

Jeffrey R. Plipek
Registration No. 41,471
Attorney for Applicants

JRF/fs
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
September 26, 2003